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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 63

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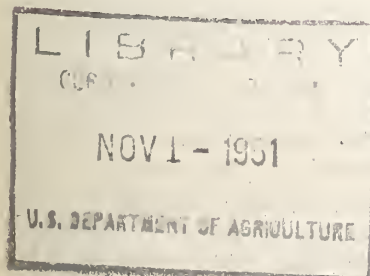
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FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

OCTOBER 22, 1951



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

The Argentine Government recently released revised 1947 census figures on livestock population, as follows: cattle, 42,259,026 head; sheep, 50,418,268 head; hogs, 2,955,304 head.

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Indonesian copra exports during September 1951 totaled 37,672 long tons, a decrease of almost 11 percent from the 42,234 tons exported during August. Shipments went to the following countries: Western Germany--19,598 tons; the Netherlands--9,262; France--5,799; and Norway--3,013 tons. January-September exports totaled 340,496 tons against 173,334 tons in the comparable months of 1950. Total copra production in September amounted to 52,655 tons (East Indonesia--45,273; West Borneo--7,382). Deliveries to domestic oil mills in September were 2,983 tons. Copra prices paid to producers by the Copra Foundation were reduced on September 15 to 95 gulden per 100 kilograms (\$127.70 per long ton) from the earlier price of 115 gulden (\$154.56) and were guaranteed until the end of November. Copra output for October is forecast at about 33,000 tons and exports at about 50,000 tons.

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Exports of cotton from the United States in August, 1951 totaled 152,000 bales of 500 pounds (149,000 running bales), including 45,000 bales to Japan, 25,000 to the United Kingdom, 16,000 to Canada, 14,000 to Belgium and 12,000 to India. (A more detailed report, with statistical data, will be published in Foreign Crops and Markets of October 29).

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Following a meeting of the Management Committee of the International Wool Study Group on October 9, the Secretariat has informed member countries that no meeting of the Group will be held in 1951 and that the date of the next meeting has been provisionally set for mid-1952. The International Wool Study Group met last in London October 2-10, 1950 at which 27 countries were represented.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION NEAR PREWAR PEAK

World cotton production in 1951-52 is tentatively estimated at 35,300,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) from about 82.0 million acres based on preliminary reports from nearly all of the principal cotton-producing countries. This production estimate is 7.8 million bales or 28 percent higher than the slightly revised estimate of 27,540,000 bales for 1950-51, but is 9 percent below the record world crop of 39.0 million bales produced in 1937-38. Last year's world acreage is estimated at about 66.7 million acres and in 1937-38 it was 92.6 million.

This increase of 7.8 million bales in world production is attributed mainly to an increase of 6.9 million bales in the United States crop while foreign production increased by only .9 million bales. However, both the United States crop of 16.9 million bales and foreign production of 18.4 million are near the record estimates of 18.9 million and 20.0 million bales, respectively, for 1937-38.

The 69 percent increase in United States production over that in 1950-51, estimated at 10,012,000 bales, resulted from a 60-percent increase in acreage from 17,828,000 to 28,544,000 acres and an increase in average yield per acre from 269.2 pounds to 284.7 pounds as shown in the latest official cotton report released on October 8, 1951. The increase in acreage was brought about largely by the increased prices received by producers for the 1950-51 crop and was encouraged by widespread demand for a supply of cotton sufficient to make good the shortage of that year and to provide for national security and for the usual civilian needs and exports.

Cotton producers in foreign countries responded to last year's exceptionally high prices and profits with a sharp increase in acreage but in most of the countries from which reports were received, either weather conditions were unfavorable or insect infestation was greater than normal, resulting in reduced yields per acre. Maintenance of food-production programs and farm labor scarcity in some countries also were limiting factors in expansion of cotton cultivation.

Current reports from Mexico indicate that an increase of about 100 percent in cotton acreage in the State of Sonora on the west coast where new pump irrigation developments provided adequate water has nearly offset heavy losses in the Matamoros and other northeastern districts where severe drought and shortage of irrigation water existed throughout the entire growing period. This year's record estimate of 1,325,000 bales is about 300,000 above the 1950-51 crop of 1,120,000 bales but about 200,000 less than was expected earlier from the larger acreage.

The 1951-52 crop now being harvested in North Brazil is estimated at less than 300,000 bales compared with 480,000 a year ago. The decrease is attributed to heavy damage by locust plagues and to a lesser extent to drought. There is little evidence of any significant increase in South Brazil where the 1951-52 crop is planted during September and October, so the over-all estimate for Brazil is calculated at 1,350,000 bales compared with 1,500,000 a year ago. The principal limiting factors for cotton expansion in South Brazil are scarcity of farm labor, the difficulty of competing with high-profit coffee crops, scarcity of fertilizers, and lack of access to new large areas of virgin farm land which made possible the rapid expansion of cotton growing in the 1930's.

Continent and country	Acreage						Production 2/						
	Year beginning August 1			Year beginning August 1			Averages			Averages			
	1940-44		1949	1950 2/		1951 3/	1935-39		1940-44	1949	1950 2/		1951 3/
	1,000 acres	acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	bales	1,000 bales	bales	1,000 bales	bales	
NORTH AMERICA													
El Salvador.....	9:	23:	43:	52:	78:	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Guatemala.....	-	7:	8:	9:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mexico.....	725:	855:	1,446:	1,804:	2,015:	334:	334:	425:	937:	1,120:	1,325	1,325	
Nicaragua.....	9:	7:	37:	48:	70:	5:	5:	5:	21:	20:	40	40	
United States.....	27,788:	21,992:	27,230:	17,828:	28,544:	13,149:	13,149:	11,957:	16,128:	10,012:	16,931	16,931	
British West Indies.....	20:	20:	15:	-	-	5:	5:	5:	4:	-	-	-	
Haiti.....	-	-	40:	25:	-	22:	22:	12:	8:	-	-	-	
Total 4/.....	28,642:	22,960:	28,824:	19,792:	30,791:	13,523:	13,523:	12,421:	17,136:	11,198:	18,365	18,365	
EUROPE													
Bulgaria 5/.....	85:	61:	-	-	-	35:	35:	17:	-	-	-	-	
Greece.....	168:	101:	141:	191:	212:	76:	76:	27:	72:	117:	126	126	
Italy.....	56:	106:	43:	57:	42:	21:	21:	27:	9:	14:	13	13	
Rumania 5/.....	8:	63:	-	-	-	2:	2:	11:	-	-	-	-	
Spain.....	46:	96:	135:	-	-	10:	10:	17:	14:	15:	-	-	
Yugoslavia.....	8:	15:	104:	-	-	3:	3:	4:	8:	-	-	-	
Total 4/.....	372:	443:	634:	722:	794:	147:	147:	103:	153:	203:	236	236	
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....													
.....	5,087:	3,911:	4,550:	5,600:	-	3,430:	3,430:	2,080:	2,700:	-	-	-	
ASIA													
Cyprus.....	11:	6:	-	13:	-	3:	3:	1:	2:	3:	-	-	
Iran.....	453:	384:	247:	300:	-	171:	171:	105:	96:	129:	124	124	
Iraq.....	53:	24:	100:	125:	125:	11:	11:	10:	9:	38:	38	38	
Syria.....	85:	73:	99:	193:	550:	28:	28:	15:	61:	140:	300	300	
Turkey.....	667:	736:	804:	1,100:	1,500:	249:	249:	241:	445:	562:	650	650	
Afghanistan.....	-	-	-	-	-	49:	49:	23:	20:	34:	-	-	
Burma.....	428:	364:	184:	203:	216:	97:	97:	80:	35:	35:	40	40	
China (incl. Manchuria).....	7,038:	5,849:	5,300:	7,650:	-	2,855:	2,855:	2,012:	1,700:	2,330:	-	-	
French Indochina.....	36:	-	-	-	-	6:	6:	7:	1:	1:	-	-	
Japan.....	2:	-	12:	-	-	1:	1:	1:	3:	-	-	-	
India.....	6/ 24,204:	20,518:	12,173:	13,859:	15,900:	5,348:	5,348:	4,853:	2,350:	2,650:	2,800	2,800	
Korea 7/.....	564:	776:	330:	-	-	198:	198:	196:	130:	90:	-	-	
Indonesia.....	27:	24:	-	-	-	9:	9:	10:	5:	3:	-	-	
Pakistan.....	6/ :	6/ :	2,862:	2,800:	2,900:	6/ :	6/ :	6/ :	1,000:	1,237:	1,286	1,286	
Philippine Islands.....	5:	15:	3:	3:	3:	1:	1:	3:	1:	1:	1	1	
Siam.....	16:	80:	82:	86:	-	7:	7:	29:	20:	23:	-	-	
Total 4/.....	33,805:	29,100:	22,291:	26,759:	30,152:	9,038:	9,038:	7,593:	5,883:	7,287:	7,920	7,920	

SOUTH AMERICA													
Argentina.....	770:	826:	1,141:	1,142:	1,300:	289:	398:	643:	460:	500			
Brazil.....	5,562:	5,812:	4,500:	4,700:	-	1,956:	2,169:	1,300:	1,500:	1,350			
Colombia.....	98:	99:	-	120:	-	23:	22:	38:	33:	-			
Ecuador.....	40:	38:	-	-	-	13:	9:	18:	18:	18			
Paraguay.....	111:	116:	161:	150:	-	40:	42:	60:	49:	-			
Peru.....	423:	353:	380:	385:	383:	379:	311:	371:	372:	370			
Venezuela.....	50:	53:	-	-	35:	11:	15:	6:	5:	-			
Total 4/.....	7,060:	7,299:	6,415:	6,580:	6,876:	2,711:	2,966:	2,437:	2,438:	2,349			
AFRICA AND OCEANIA													
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.....	439:	363:	430:	539:	-	248:	253:	305:	436:	-			
Belgian Congo.....	874:	923:	750:	800:	-	172:	182:	220:	197:	-			
Kenya.....	-	-	50:	53:	60:	13:	21:	8:	11:	10			
Nyasaland.....	84:	56:	-	-	-	12:	7:	5:	4:	5			
Tanganyika.....	-	-	-	-	-	50:	45:	43:	41:	47			
Uganda.....	1,477:	1,152:	1,629:	1,550:	1,550:	281:	198:	283:	283:	275			
Canary Islands.....	-	-	2:	5:	-	-	-	1:	2:	-			
Egypt.....	1,821:	1,162:	1,756:	2,050:	2,054:	1,893:	1,243:	1,796:	1,754:	1,697			
French Equatorial Africa.....	390:	583:	600:	600:	-	41:	87:	120:	100:	-			
French North Africa.....	1:	5:	5:	12:	17:	8/	2:	3:	5:	7			
French West Africa.....	-	-	-	-	-	28:	20:	22:	25:	-			
Mozambique.....	-	497:	644:	-	-	33:	93:	83:	120:	-			
Nigeria.....	-	-	-	-	-	36:	30:	60:	80:	80			
Angola.....	73:	-	102:	110:	-	13:	24:	28:	30:	30			
Southern Rhodesia.....	2:	5:	10:	-	-	8/	1:	4:	4:	-			
Union of South Africa.....	-	-	32:	40:	-	2:	1:	6:	11:	20			
Australia.....	53:	35:	3:	6:	8:	11:	7:	1:	1:	2			
Total 4/.....	6,176:	5,642:	6,686:	7,287:	7,367:	2,840:	2,219:	2,991:	3,117:	3,030			
World total 4/.....	81,142:	69,255:	69,400:	66,740:	81,980:	31,689:	27,382:	31,300:	27,540:	35,300			

1/ Production in bales of 478 pounds net, prior to 1946 and 480 pounds thereafter. 2/ Years shown refer to crop years in which major portion of crop was harvested. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Includes estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above, and allowances for other figures not available. 5/ Figures for 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 6/ Pakistan included with India. 7/ South Korea only, after 1941. 8/ Less than 500. 9/ Exports.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics, reports of United States Foreign Service officers and results of office research.

Early reports of sharp increases in cotton acreage and production in Turkey and Syria have been revised downward because of heavy insect damage, unfavorable weather, and lack of experience in proper cultivation and insect control on the part of many farmers. However, the current estimates of 650,000 bales for Turkey and 300,000 bales for Syria in 1951-52 represent new records for those countries.

(Continued on Page 428)

WORLD PRODUCTION OF SUGAR BEETS DOWN IN 1951

World production of sugar beets in 1951 is tentatively indicated at 98.7 million short tons, about 5 percent less than the 1950 harvest of 103.4 million tons and 120 percent of the prewar (1935-39) average of 82 million tons. Although acreage planted to sugar beets this season is increased approximately 2 percent, crop conditions in Europe promise to affect adversely world beet production as much as the reduced acreage of North America.

Acreage available for harvest in Canada and the United States has been reduced this season by about 21 percent under 1950. Sugar beet production in these two areas is expected to drop 22 percent below the previous season.

Production of sugar beets in Europe (excluding the Soviet Union) is indicated at 67.2 million tons compared with 70.1 million tons in 1950. The acreage available for harvest is expected to total 6.1 million acres or 5 percent higher than 1950. However, for most European countries, the cool, rainy spring and summer and the factor of disease (virus yellow and cercospora heticole) indicate a lower yield with a consequent decrease of total production.

The acreage available in the Soviet Union may be 3 percent higher during 1951 than that of 1950. With favorable crop conditions, it is expected that Soviet sugar beet production will be about 8 percent above last year's production.

Although Turkey and Iran have larger acreages of beets for harvest, lower yields and resultant lower sugar beet production are expected this season compared with 1950.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service Reports.

SUGAR BEETS: Acreage and production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1947-1951

Continent and country	Acreage 1/			Production									
	Average	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 2/	Average	1940-44	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 2/
	1935-39	1940-44					1935-39						
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons	1,000 Short tons
NORTH AMERICA													
Canada.....	50:	62:	58:	84:	102:	97:	504:	659:	606:	629:	859:	1,128:	1,037
United States.....	827:	745:	881:	687:	926:	716:	9,595:	9,497:	12,503:	9,422:	10,197:	13,497:	10,326
Total.....	877:	807:	939:	771:	1,028:	813:	10,099:	10,156:	13,109:	10,051:	11,056:	14,625:	11,363
EUROPE													
Austria.....	102:	83:	53:	54:	65:	69:	1,202:	814:	295:	397:	529:	938:	1,150
Belgium.....	124:	133:	129:	112:	160:	166:	1,603:	1,843:	1,220:	1,761:	2,542:	3,197:	2,585
Bulgaria 3/.....	23:	53:	44:	88:	76:	80:	154:	308:	138:	546:	397:	311:	450
Czechoslovakia 3/.....	383:	452:	421:	430:	531:	540:	4,468:	4,135:	2,281:	4,191:	4,096:	5,512:	5,000
Denmark.....	98:	112:	108:	121:	154 4/	177 4/	1,657:	1,688:	1,604:	1,886:	2,348 5/	2,800 6/	2,650
Finland.....	10:	8:	13:	16:	18:	24:	96:	52:	88:	197:	202:	308:	300
France.....	791:	622:	722:	762:	988:	976:	9,976:	6,464:	6,495:	10,389:	10,594:	14,965:	13,000
Germany - Western Zone.....	335:	380:	390:	413:	477:	538:	4,900:	5,400:	3,100:	5,200:	5,200:	7,690:	8,488
Germany - Eastern Zone 3/.....	414:	501:	501:	493:	499:	519:	5,938:	6,129:	3,115:	4,548:	3,908:	5,952:	5,000
Hungary.....	105:	112:	228:	277:	262:	284:	977:	962:	1,277:	1,953:	2,000:	1,900:	1,900
Ireland.....	55:	72:	62:	66:	59:	60:	590:	701:	538:	684:	720:	659:	630
Italy.....	312:	365:	272:	279:	312:	463:	3,422:	4,283:	2,458:	3,757:	3,973:	4,928:	6,000
Netherlands.....	106:	109:	126:	115:	166 7/	166:	1,760:	1,494:	1,739:	2,087:	3,244:	3,246:	3,000
Poland 3/.....	518:	596:	518:	552:	642:	655:	6,242:	6,136:	3,854:	4,660:	5,897:	6,217:	6,000
Romania 2/.....	77:	125:	141:	151:	153:	200:	622:	586:	680:	909:	882:	931:	1,000
Spain.....	161:	147:	161:	237:	231:	230:	1,243:	1,302:	1,337:	2,010:	1,329:	1,498:	2,000
Sweden.....	128:	132:	119:	117:	122:	134:	2,089:	2,008:	1,646:	1,993:	1,951:	2,181:	2,059
Switzerland 8/.....	6:	10:	13:	14:	14:	15:	91:	164:	177:	204:	225:	259:	260
United Kingdom.....	344:	387:	395:	413:	421:	429:	3,395:	3,887:	3,315:	4,837:	4,437:	5,842:	4,368
Yugoslavia 2/.....	77:	94:	183:	192:	200:	205:	658:	573:	1,256:	1,455:	866:	731:	1,400
Total (excluding U.S.S.R.).....	4,169:	4,493:	4,601:	4,878:	5,422:	5,799:	51,086:	48,929:	36,713:	53,664:	55,340:	70,085:	67,240
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia).....	3,096:	1,620:	2,422:	2,842:	2,850:	2,854:	19,982:	10,524:	14,880:	16,865:	17,160:	17,100:	18,500
OTHER COUNTRIES													
Iran 2/.....	35:	43:	86:	73:	55:	85:	144:	173:	386:	268:	205:	416:	395
Turkey.....	63:	96:	102:	118:	127:	127:	434:	584:	650:	780:	901:	943:	890
Japan.....	42:	38:	43:	30:	30:	35:	310:	205:	137:	73:	154:	193:	297
Uruguay.....	3:	6:	6:	7:	7:	10:	16:	18:	28:	15:	18:	57:	60
Total.....	143:	183:	237:	227:	219:	256:	904:	980:	1,201:	1,136:	1,278:	1,609:	1,642
Grand total.....	8,285:	7,103:	8,199:	8,701:	9,262:	9,937:	82,071:	70,589:	65,903:	81,716:	84,834:	103,419:	98,745

1/ Area estimates are for total harvested areas unless otherwise stated. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Harvested for sugar only. 4/ Includes about 5,000 acres sown in Denmark to be processed in Sweden. 5/ Includes about 87,000 short tons of beets processed in Sweden. 6/ Includes about 72,000 short tons of beet processed in Sweden. 7/ New method of obtaining acreage is now in use in Netherlands. This results in slightly lower estimates. 8/ Production figures are for beets delivered to factory.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers result of office research and other information. Estimates of countries having boundary changes have been adjusted to postwar boundaries.

CANADA'S 1950-51 GRAIN EXPORTS BELOW 1949-50

Canadian grain exports during 1950-51 (July-June) totaled 7,103,000 long tons (grain equivalent), a reduction of 4 percent from the 7,403,000 tons shipped abroad during 1949-50. The peak level of exports since the end of World War II was 10,701,000 tons in 1945-46. The all-time record to date was 12,610,000 in 1928-29. During the five years (1934-35 through 1938-39) immediately preceding the War, Canadian grain exports averaged 5,289,000 tons annually.

A large reduction in wheat exports together with a substantial reduction in exports of rye accounted for the overall decline in total quantities of grain moved into export channels during the past year. Exports of oats (including oatmeal) and of barley (including malt) were substantially higher than a year earlier, but not sufficiently higher to offset the reduction in exports of bread grains. Exports of corn, as usual, were insignificant.

CANADIAN GRAIN EXPORTS DURING STATED PERIODS
(In Long Tons Grain Equivalent)

Period	Wheat	Rye	Oats 1/	Barley 1/	All grains 1/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
Average 1934-35 through 1938-39	4,685,000	45,000	199,000	348,000	5,289,000
1945-46	9,655,000	79,000	778,000	175,000	10,701,000
1946-47	6,223,000	132,000	579,000	161,000	7,114,000
1947-48	5,588,000	269,000	185,000	69,000	6,120,000
1948-49	5,944,000	261,000	590,000	506,000	7,307,000
1949-50	6,331,000	252,000	365,000	449,000	7,403,000
1950-51	5,913,000	207,000	460,000	519,000	7,103,000

Compiled from Trade of Canada, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce.

1/ "Wheat" includes wheat flour. "Oats" includes oatmeal and rolled oats. "Barley" includes malt.

"All grains" includes the relatively small exports of corn and corn meal.

Bread grains: Wheat (including flour) is the predominant grain in the Canadian export trade. By comparison, rye is relatively insignificant. During 1950-51, these two grains accounted for 86 percent of the total grain export movement compared with 89 percent in 1949-50. Before the War (1934-35/1938-39), they also made up 89 percent of the total. The relation bread grain exports to actual production during 1950-51, with comparisons for the 5-year period 1934-35 through 1938-39 shown in parenthesis, was as follows: wheat 48 (66) percent and rye 62 (25) percent.

Canada's 1950-51 (July-June) combined exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat amounted to 5,913,000 long tons (221 million bushels), a reduction of 7 percent from the 1949-50 total of 6,331,000 tons (236 million bushels). All of the decrease was accounted for by reduced exports of wheat as grain. Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat increased substantially compared with 1949-50, but not sufficiently to offset the decline in wheat exports.

Actual exports of wheat as grain during the past season amounted to 4,462,000 tons (167 million bushels) compared with 5,109,000 tons (191 million bushels) the year before, a reduction of 9 percent. If account were taken of the grades of wheat exported, the decline would be still more marked since a considerable proportion of the 1950-51 exports consisted of feed wheat. In that connection, official inspection figures reveal that only 48 percent of the 184,945 cars of wheat inspected during the 12 month period August-July of 1950-51 graded No. 4 Northern or better. During the same period of 1949-50, when 179,555 cars were inspected, 88 percent graded No. 4 Northern or better.

Among the factors contributing to the decline in 1950-51 wheat exports were the lower quality of much of the crop because of frost damage, and unfavorable harvest conditions which considerably delayed marketing. Rail and Lake transportation problems were also important factors contributing to reduced exports. Exports of flour in terms of wheat, however, amounted to 1,451,000 tons (54 million bushels) compared with 1,222,000 tons (46 million bushels) during 1949-50, an increase of 19 percent.

Coarse grains: During 1950-51, total exports of coarse grains and their products amounted to 984,000 long tons (grain equivalent) compared with 820,000 tons in 1949-50, an increase of 12 percent. Approximately 53 percent of the past season's coarse grain exports consisted of barley and 47 percent of oats. A year earlier, barley represented 54 percent and oats 45 percent of the coarse grain exports. With respect to corn, the Dominion is a large net importer. Canadian exports of coarse grains and their products normally account for no more than a small percent of the crop. The relation of exports of these grains to actual production during 1950-51, with comparisons for the 5-year period 1934-35 through 1938-39 shown in parenthesis, was as follows: oats 7 (4) percent and barley 14 (20) percent.

Destination of 1950-51 Exports

Approximately 3,881,000 long tons, or 55 percent of Canada's 1950-51 grain exports, went to European countries compared with 4,603,000 tons, or 62 percent, in 1949-50. The percentage distribution to other geographical areas, with comparisons for 1949-50 shown in parenthesis, was as follows: Western Hemisphere 29 (23) percent; Asia 13 (11) percent; Africa 3 (4) percent; and insignificant quantities to Oceania.

The United Kingdom continued as the principal foreign market for wheat and flour, taking approximately 2,512,000 tons (94 million bushels) in terms of wheat, or 43 percent of the combined total to all countries. During 1949-50, the combined wheat and flour exports to the British market amounted to 3,691,000 tons (138 million bushels), or 58 percent of the total. The bulk of the sales in both years was made under the terms of the International Wheat Agreement. Largely as a result of the shortage of good milling quality wheat, Canada's 1950-51 exports to the United Kingdom of wheat as grain amounted to only 1,867,000 tons compared with 3,151,000 tons in 1949-50, a reduction of 40 percent. Exports of flour to that market, on the other hand, amounted to 645,000 tons against 540,000 tons the year before, an increase of 12 percent,

While 1950-51 exports of wheat as grain to the United Kingdom declined, those to other Europe showed a net gain, largely because of increased shipments to Italy. In addition to the United Kingdom, the other principal European

DESTINATION OF CANADA'S GRAIN AND GRAIN PRODUCTS EXPORTS
(In Long Tons Grain Equivalent. 1949-50 and 1950-51)

Year and Product	Western Hemisphere	Europe	Africa	Asia	Oceania	All Countries
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
1949-50						
Wheat	421,059	3,921,143	257,663	509,004	34	5,108,903
Wheat flour	362,149	554,457	34,353	268,100	2,761	1,221,820
Rye	223,150	27,291	-	2,000	-	252,441
Total bread grains	1,006,358	4,502,891	292,016	779,104	2,795	6,583,164
Corn	3,842	1,119	-	976	25	5,962
Oats	309,017	52,872	33	2,169	246	364,337
Barley 1/	398,248	45,621	376	4,175	736	449,156
Total coarse grain	711,107	99,612	409	7,320	1,007	819,455
Grand total	1,717,465	4,602,503	292,425	786,424	3,802	7,402,619
1950-51						
Wheat	765,564	2,880,582	188,003	628,136	-	4,462,285
Wheat flour	425,116	745,140	37,492	242,912	24	1,450,684
Rye	150,594	56,304	-	-	-	206,898
Total bread grains	1,341,274	3,682,026	225,495	871,048	24	6,119,867
Corn	3,794	130	-	-	-	3,924
Oats	422,340	36,220	19	2,297	-	460,876
Barley 1/	327,324	163,092	-	27,832	736	518,984
Total coarse grains	753,458	199,442	19	30,129	736	983,784
Grand total	2,094,732	3,881,468	225,514	901,177	760	7,103,651

Compiled from Trade of Canada, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.

1/ Includes the grain equivalent of corn meal, oatmeal and malt.

purchasers of Canadian wheat were Belgium, Switzerland, Ireland and Italy. Canada's flour exports to the European area during 1950-51 show substantial increases not only to the United Kingdom but to other Europe as well, especially to Italy.

Western Hemisphere countries accounted for 17 percent of the wheat and 29 percent of the 1950-51 flour exports. The principal destination for the wheat shipped to that area that year were the United States, Chile, Colombia and Bolivia. It should be noted that Canadian wheat shipments to the United States include wheat unfit for human consumption as well as shipments for milling in bond and reexport. For flour, the leading Western Hemisphere purchaser were the British West Indies, Venezuela, Cuba, and Central America.

Asiatic countries took 14 percent of the year's wheat exports and 17 percent of the flour. India, Japan, and Israel took most of the wheat while the flour went mainly to the Philippines, Hong Kong, Japan, Syria and British Malaya. Especially noteworthy were the large increases in exports of wheat as grain to India and Japan, and the large reductions in exports to the Middle East.

African countries accounted for 4 percent of the 1950-51 wheat exports and for 3 percent of the flour exports. Exports of wheat to the African area were somewhat smaller than a year earlier, but these of flour were slightly larger.

The geographical distribution of Canada's 1950-51 coarse grain exports, consisting almost entirely of barley and oats, with comparisons for 1949-50 shown in parentheses, was as follows: Europe 20 (12) percent; Western Hemisphere 77 (87) percent; Asia 3 (1) percent; and insignificant quantities to Africa and Oceania. --By Leo J. Schaben.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION IN WESTERN GERMANY

The results of the June 1951 livestock census in Western Germany show that the building up of the cattle population is continuing, though at a slower rate for most age groups. Milk cow numbers will apparently maintain a more rapid increase than other types of cattle. Hog numbers reached a post-war record of over 12 million, and exceeded the prewar June average by 8 percent. The relatively reduced number of bred sows, however, indicates that the limited feed basis, especially the lack of feed grains, as well as the limited purchasing power of the consumer, will slow down further expansion, so that the hog population will probably have reached its peak during the current fall, with about 14 million head. Sheep numbers continued to decrease, though at a slower rate than during 1950.

The meat supply position is good. Supplies, however, did not keep pace with the considerable rise in domestic production, since lack of foreign currency resulted in drastic import reductions. During the economic year 1950-51, which ended on June 30, 1951, domestic meat production, excluding slaughter fats, amounted to 1.64 million metric tons (3.6 billion pounds) compared with 1.45 million metric tons (3.2 billion pounds) in 1949-50, thus covering 90 percent of the total consumption of 1.83 million metric tons (4.0 billion pounds).

Federal legislation in Western Germany is aiming at a better organization and control of marketing and foreign trade activities, as well as at an improvement in breeding practices and quality standards of livestock and livestock products.

ARGENTINE WOOL SITUATION
1951-52 SEASON

Production - Present conditions in Argentina indicate an increase in total production of shorn and pulled wool to a probable 455 million pounds greasy shorn basis, for the season beginning October 1 compared with a revised total of about 420 million pounds in the season just closed. Most of the increase is likely to be in production of low crossbred wool which will account for about 120 million pounds or 27 percent. Fine and medium crossbred wool may account for about 255 million pounds or 56 percent, and merino wool 75 million pounds or about 17 percent, the latter being slightly below last season's output.

Quality of the new clip is expected to be very good, particularly with respect to coarse wools from the Buenos Aires Province where an open winter with good pastures and clean range conditions prevailed. There will be some "tender" wool from Patagonia as a result of a brief period of heavy snow and ice; however, the quantity affected will be less than usual. Dry weather conditions in La Pampa, Cordoba, and Corrientes may result in some weak wool with light fleece weights.

Increased production is almost entirely attributable to a greater number of sheep shorn. Flocks are estimated currently near 51 million compared with 47 million a year ago, and about on a par with numbers at the time of the 1947 census. Numbers declined sharply in 1948 as a result of exceptional winter losses in Patagonia and a curtailment of sheep production in Buenos Aires Province where labor was scarce and wool was at competitive disadvantage. Recovery began in 1949 followed by a strong upturn in 1950 which was further accelerated in early 1951. Increases were notable in Buenos Aires Province and in the Corrientes-Entre Rios region. There has been a moderate increase in numbers in Patagonia, however efforts to stock more heavily in Cordoba and in northwestern Zones were handicapped by severe drought.

Exportable Supply - Argentina is in a position to export approximately 430 million pounds of wool, greasy shorn basis during the year beginning October 1, compared with 330 million pounds available last season. This assumes a total carryin of 220 million pounds, made up of about 154 million pounds exportable stocks and 66 million pounds mill stocks, and a clip of 455 million pounds, less domestic consumption of about 132 million pounds and a normal carry-out in all positions of 110 million pounds. The greater availability is attributable to increases this season both in carry-in and in the expected clip.

The quantity of coarse wool for export may be considered near 132 million pounds, well above last season's supply. The balance will be largely fine and medium crossbreds. Very little merino wool will be available as this is largely consumed by the domestic industry.

Present Market Situation and Outlook - Internal prices for wool in the Argentine are presently above the equivalent of world quotations and few sellers are willing to accept world prices, this prevents sales abroad in spite of the government's willingness now to provide export licenses. Internal prices remain high because producers and dealers expect a firming tendency later in the season in world markets, they also expect an upward revision of the official exchange rate. Large profits from last year's sales make it possible for producers to hold their wool for speculative purposes and as the new season opens there has been little activity, no advance contracting by dealers and the trade in general is unwilling to liquidate old stocks at present prices.

In spite of producer and dealer attitudes, the urgent requirements of Argentina for foreign exchange probably will prevent a holding policy through 1952 of the type experienced in the last 6 months. If world prices do not settle on a level high enough to attract sales the government is expected to adopt measures to foster external trade.

The smaller than normal surplus position of grains and oilseeds which are normally the chief sources of foreign exchange for Argentina makes it doubly important that wool be sold and exported in 1952 to support the economy. --By Eugene T. Ransom, based upon reports from C. A. Boonstra, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

CANADIAN 1951 BEAN CROP PROBABLY LOWEST IN 15 YEARS

The latest estimate of the 1951 bean production in Canada indicates the smallest crop in 15 years and foreshadows possible increased Canadian imports of beans from the United States during the current season. The 1951 Canadian crop is officially estimated at 709,000 bags, 13 percent less than the 810,000 produced in 1950 and 26 percent less than the 964,000 bags average production during 1946-49. For a few years prior to the harvest of the 1950 crop Canada was exporting beans at an average of about 160,000 bags per year. But last year, because of the short crop, Canada was a net importer of about 125,000 bags. It is possible that imports might increase to 200,000 bags or more in the current season because of the still shorter 1951 crop.

BEANS, Dry: Canadian production, trade and disappearance 1946-1951

Season Beginning: August 1	Production:	Imports :	Total :	Exports:	Domestic
:	:	:	supply :	:	disappearance
:	Bags of 100 pounds				
1946-47.....	943,800 :	43,200 :	987,000 :	150,600:	836,400
1947-48.....	867,600 :	18,600 :	886,200 :	41,400:	844,800
1948-49.....	984,600 :	36,600 :	1,021,200 :	280,800:	740,400
1949-50.....	1,059,600 :	33,000 :	1,092,600 :	159,600:	933,000
1950-51.....	810,000 :	147,000 :	957,000 :	22,200:	934,800
1951-52.....	708,600 :	- :	- :	- :	-

Sintesis Mensual Estadistica (official) for 1946-47 through 1950-51.

Very little sunflowerseed has yet been planted. Growers apparently hope to plant a record acreage, possibly near 5 million acres, partly as a substitute for reduced seedings of small grains and flaxseed. Weather so far has been unfavorable for land preparation and sowing but the crop can be planted successfully through December. Land on which wheat is harvested early or abandoned is frequently planted in December or January to late sunflower seed. Other factors encouraging an increase for sunflower seed include satisfactory prices, reasonably stable yields, considerable drought resistance, and adaptability to mechanized harvest.

The peanut area is experiencing severe drought and no peanuts had been planted as of early October. Production and prices last year were satisfactory and growers are anxious to plant if weather permits. If conditions improve by the end of October, sowings may approach 300,000 acres, slightly above last year. If weather does not improve, the sowings may be very small.

Cotton growers evidently desire to increase plantings considerably as a result of the highly profitable prices paid in the domestic market. However, observers believe that shortages of labor and machinery will limit the planted area to 1.3 million acres, about 4 percent more than last season. Conditions so far have been unfavorable for land preparation and planting.

Rapeseed has virtually disappeared as a planted crop. The annual production comes mostly from cleaning of grains and field seeds.

The tung crop to be harvested next year is expected to be small because recent frosts destroyed much of the bloom.

PHILIPPINE COPRA SHIPMENTS CONTINUE HIGH IN SEPTEMBER

Philippine shipments of copra and coconut oil during September 1951 were 81,051 and 6,497 long tons, respectively, and represented the second highest monthly total - 91,789 tons copra equivalent - for the year.

Copra exports during September by country of destination were: United States-45,625 tons (Atlantic-8,662; Gulf-3,614; Pacific-33,349); Canada-2,000; Colombia-4,950; Venezuela-1,200; Belgium-3,950; Denmark-5,200; France-500; Italy-2,030; the Netherlands-10,050; Norway-1,460; Sweden-3,000; South Africa-50; and Jamaica-1,000 tons.

Coconut oil shipments for the month were destined to: United States-4,676 tons; Belgium-385; Netherlands-880; Italy-300; and South Africa-256 tons.

Copra export prices were quoted in mid-October at \$185 per short ton c.i.f. Pacific. Local buying prices during September were from 33 to 34 pesos per 100 kilograms in Manila (\$167.65-\$172.73 per long ton) and 30 to 33.50 pesos in producing areas (\$152.41-\$170.19).

VENEZUELA TO CONTINUE IMPORTS OF OILSEEDS AND VEGETABLE OILS

Venezuela's situation with respect to edible oilseeds and vegetable oils remains essentially static, reports James H. Kempton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Caracas.

There are, however, 3 elements worthy of mention. First, production of palm oil (from the fruit of the domestically grown *Elaeis guineensis*), a new oil for Venezuela, has now reached 1.4 short tons per day. But since it is not being purchased for domestic use, an export outlet for the oil is being sought. Secondly, the quantity of cottonseed available for crushing from this year's expanded cotton crop will be 3 times the volume of each of the last 2 years. Thirdly, sesame plantings this fall will not be financed by the Venezuelan Development Corporation because of the current financial difficulties of the Corporation together with the unfavorable experience last year regarding the sesame program. And, finally, Venezuela will continue to import much of its oilseeds and, for the remainder of this year and next, vegetable oils for the manufacture of edible fats.

Production of vegetable oils in 1951-52 is expected to be essentially the same as the previous year. Although palm oil output may add 500 short tons, and cottonseed oil 550 tons, failure to finance sesame production could result in a decline of 1,100 tons of sesame oil. There is nothing new regarding the production of coconuts, the principal domestic vegetable oil material.

Production of fats and oils in Venezuela in 1950 and the first 6 months of 1951 has been as follows in short tons:

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951 (Jan.-June)</u>
Sesame oil	2,356	1,960
Cottonseed oil	289	197
Coconut oil	1,197	635
Vegetable lard	15,707	8,828
Hog lard	-	2,282
Butter	1,475	582

Imports of some fats, oils, and oilseeds in 1951 have been at a somewhat higher rate (considering the seasonal influence) than in 1950, particularly as regards copra and sesame seed. Imports in 1950 and the first half of 1951 were as follows in short tons:

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951 (Jan.-June)</u>
Olive oil (pure)	3,248	56
Edible vegetable oils (unspecified)	631	868
Sesame	4,182	2,587
Copra	23,299	7,036
Coconut oil	6,403	2,915
Peanuts	1,128	466
Non-edible fats	103	18

Castor oil	79	16
Hog lard	5,328	1,375
Animal oils, industrial	137	72
Tallow	3,156	521

While butter production and imports have declined, locally produced margarine has somewhat more than made up for this loss. The new margarine plant, "Mavesa," is now operating at about half its full annual capacity of roughly 8,800 tons of edible oils.

Consumption of edible fats and oils in Venezuela may have increased a little.

Soap production has continued the decline begun in 1949 as a result of the importation of synthetic detergents. However, it appears now that the low point has been reached. Production of soap in 1950 totaled 16,425 tons, and in the January-June period of this year 8,865 tons.

Prices of local vegetable lard and imported hog lard are controlled. The latest change in the controlled price was made February 3, 1951 (see Foreign Crops and Markets of March 26, 1951 - page 353). Some recent free market retail prices for fat items, in terms of U.S. cents per pound equivalent, were as follows:

Olive oil	83.5 cents per lb.		
Sesame oil	72.0 "	"	"
Local hog lard	47.6 "	"	"
Local vegetable lard	42.2 "	"	"
" butter	1.16 -"	"	"
Imported butter	1.20 "	"	"
Local margarine	0.78 -"	"	"

It will be noted that in the free market vegetable lard sells below the controlled retail price of 46.4 cents. This is not entirely voluntary, however, because market prices are set by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The refusal of domestic users of vegetable oils to purchase the domestic palm oil has caused the producers of this oil to seek customs restrictions on imports of competing oils. The reason for the refusal of oil users to purchase the palm oil is that they are the crushers of other oilseeds who also manufacture soap, vegetable lard, margarine, and table oils. Thus, they want to express their own oils. If the present palm oil producers had sufficient capital to process the oil into a saleable end product, his problem would be solved. But with the free entry of copra into Venezuela - after the small domestic product is first purchased by crushers at a minimum equivalent price of \$272.16 per short ton - he probably could not compete with the oil industry that uses Old World copra at much lower prices.

Palm oil production in Venezuela probably should be expanded. Particularly so if the nematode disease can be controlled or, possibly, avoided by planting the palm trees on virgin soil rather than old banana lands. The Elaeisis guineensis palm offers the quickest and best source of this type of vegetable oil in Venezuela and, therefore, expanded plantings should be encouraged.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDSARGENTINE GRAIN
ACREAGE SMALLER

Argentine grain acreage seeded for harvest in 1951-52 is considerably smaller than acreage for the previous year, according to unofficial forecasts. The net reduction of about 6 million acres from the 1950-51 seeded acreage is largely in wheat acreage, which is reported about 30 percent smaller than last year's area. Moderate reductions in other small grains are partially offset by an increase in the prospective corn acreage.

The decline in area seeded to small grains is attributed to a number of factors. Drought of varying degrees of severity hindered the preparation of land in some districts and prevented planting in others. Shortages of labor and machinery also delayed operations. Dissatisfaction with governmental price policy was also reported to have been a factor, causing some growers to shift from grain to livestock.

Acreage of all grains is tentatively forecast at about 27 million acres, as compared with 33 million in 1950-51 and the 1941-42 level of 38.5 million acres. A decline of that magnitude presents serious problems regarding the outlook for trade.

Wheat acreage is forecast at a maximum of about 11 million acres, 5 million under seedings for the past year and 7 million acres less than in 1941-42. Severe drought cut seedings in the northern wheat zone of Cordoba and Santa Fe by about 2.5 million acres. In the southwestern zone, near Bahia Blanca, the soil was reported dry and difficult to work without tractors, which reduced the area seeded there by another 2.5 million acres. Moderate reductions are reported in several minor producing zones.

Even with normal yields, present prospects point to a maximum wheat outturn of about 145 million bushels, one of the smallest of record, contrasting with last year's crop of 213 million bushels and the 1940-44 average of 235 million. Domestic requirements are normally placed at about 130 million bushels. Latest prospects indicated relatively poor yields because of dry weather and some frost damage. Locust swarms near the wheat area also constitute a potential threat. Unless conditions improve, the crop may be even smaller than indicated and approximate domestic requirements, according to reports.

The area seeded to rye, though about 13 percent below the record seedings of a year ago, is almost double the area of a decade ago. Since rye is widely used as a winter forage crop, however, the seeded area has little relation to that harvested. Rye acreage is being grazed heavily this year, because of drought conditions, and production of grain is expected to be very small.

Grazing of barley is also reported unusually heavy this year. Seeded acreage is believed to be about average, though smaller than the unusually large area seeded to barley last year.

Seeding of oats was handicapped by dryness, especially in areas growing this crop for grain. Seedings were below average as well as smaller than acreage last year. As in the case of rye and barley, oats is being grazed heavily, thereby reducing prospects for grain production.

Preparation of land for corn was held up by dry conditions and growers are experiencing difficulty in planting their intended acreages. Some increase is expected, however, as a substitute for failures of small grains. Also the recent increase in the price to be paid corn producers makes corn relatively more profitable than small grains. Acute labor shortages continuing in the corn zone, however, are expected to limit the extent of the expansion. - By Judith E. Downey, based upon reports from C. A. Boonstra, Agricultural Attache, AMERICAN Embassy, Buenos Aires.

CANADA'S GRAIN HARVEST DELAYED, QUALITY REDUCED

Continued wet weather, frost and snow have held up harvesting of the record grain crop of Canada's Prairie Provinces. Latest reports, in mid-October, told of improved weather conditions and raised hopes of completing the harvest of grain that had lain in swath for 6 to 8 weeks.

Unfavorable weather caused heavy lodging and stopped harvesting operations, especially in parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Loss of quality as well as volume is said to be inevitable. According to research chemists of the Board of Grain Commissioners, sampling to date indicates that only about 5 percent of the crop will grade No. 1, with 20 percent grading No. 2, 50 percent Nos. 3 and 4 and the remainder No. 5 or lower. This outlook contrasts with 10-year average grade yields of 28 percent in No. 1 and 46 percent in No. 2.

The low grading is reportedly the outcome of the wettest harvest weather of record, which caused shattering, sprouting, bleaching and mildew of the grain being harvested. Harvest progress was best in Manitoba where 95 percent of the grain had been cut and about 55 percent threshed or combined by mid-October. This was ahead of harvest operations there last year. Only a little over 50 percent of the grain had been cut in Saskatchewan and Alberta at that time, and a relatively small proportion of the grain threshed or combined.

Every effort is being made to get the grain in, and in position for movement before the close of lake navigation. Soldiers are being given harvest leave for that purpose and other sources of emergency help are being utilized. Authorized delivery quotas had been increased but even so, the movement to the Lakehead had been disappointing at latest report.

Storage for the large harvest presents a problem, with much grain being held on the open ground. Prospects are that substantial quantities will also be stored in municipal skating rinks and other winter sport arenas.

TROPICAL PRODUCTSCUBAN COFFEE PRODUCTION
EXPANDING

Coffee production in Cuba during the next 5 years is forecast at an annual average of 680,000 bags, ranging from about 613,000 bags in 1951-52 to 760,000 bags in 1955-56, according to J. L. Martinez, American Embassy, Havana. This compares with production of 547,000 bags in 1950-51, 662,000 bags in 1949-50, and an annual average of 562,000 bags during the crop years 1946-47 to 1950-51. Very little, if any, of the production during the next 5 years is expected to be exported, because domestic consumption is increasing. The decree of 1945 prohibiting commercial exports of coffee continues in force.

The coffee tree population in Cuba increased during the past 5 years by around 15 percent to roughly 245 million trees, of which close to one-fifth have reached ages of declining productivity. Most of the new plantings were made in Oriente Province, and about 1 million are of the Nacional variety imported from El Salvador. Over 1 million low-yielding trees were uprooted in Alto Songo to plant sugar cane, sugar mills offering to build roads as an inducement to coffee growers to shift to sugar. In addition, about 1 million trees in Las Villas Province were destroyed by weevils; most of the land on which they were planted is used now for cattle raising.

The area devoted to coffee cultivation in Cuba is estimated at 283,000 acres. About 170,000 acres are available on coffee farms for immediate expansion, and there is more land throughout Cuba suitable for coffee production. Influential officials of the Cuban Government, however, have advised against expansion beyond the needs of Cuba's increasing population. Nevertheless, coffee growers intend to expand as long as coffee prices continue high.

Cultivation practices generally are antiquated. The soil is scratched too deeply while weeding, thereby hastening erosion. Pruning constitutes the exception rather than the rule. Branches are pulled down to the breaking point while harvesting. Unselected, weak seedlings growing from fallen berries are often planted. In the hope of correcting these practices, the Cuban Government is building 5 coffee research centers. Emphasis is to be upon cover crops, healthy seedlings, and adequate varieties of coffee and shade trees. Unusually remunerative prices are inducing many growers to take better care of their plantations. Some growers are obtaining good yields through terracing to avoid erosion, pruning, and other improved cultivation practices.

Of the area under cultivation, two-fifths is in small patches up to 13 acres and an additional one-fourth in patches ranging in size from 14 to 30 acres. About 45 percent of the total coffee area is cultivated by landowners. The remainder is cultivated by sharecroppers, renters, or squatters. Sharecroppers give one-third to two-fifths of the crop to the landlord.

The value of land in coffee-producing areas has increased four-fold in 2 decades. Wages to farm-hands have doubled to a legal minimum of \$1.60 for eight-hour day, plus 9.09 percent in lieu of vacation. Yet, the standard of

living of the coffee-growing population is lower than that of most of the other segments of the Cuban population, mostly because per capita income until very recently has been small.

Nearly nine-tenths of the coffee farms are too distant from roads or railways, and transportation is still mostly by mules. About three-fifths of the 160,000 permanent inhabitants of Cuban coffee farms are underprivileged, disease is widespread, and there are few physicians. The Government is trying to remedy this situation by building roads, but these, thus far, have covered only an insignificant part of the coffee-producing areas.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

RECORD NETHERLANDS COTTON CONSUMPTION IN 1950-51; IMPORTS DOWN

Consumption of cotton in the Netherlands in 1950-51 attained the record level of 298,000 bales (500 pounds gross), more than 6 percent above the previous record of 280,000 bales consumed in 1949-50, according to W. A. Luykx and Jeanette Segal, American Embassy. The Hague, during the current 1951-52 season, consumption is expected to range between 265,000 and 300,000 bales. Any decline in raw cotton consumption from last season will be largely attributable to accumulations of unsold goods, difficulties in obtaining export markets for the textiles, and to a declining domestic market resulting from an increased cost of living.

Imports of cotton in 1950-51 totaled 271,500 bales, 17 percent below the postwar high of 326,600 bales imported in 1949-50. United States cotton declined in importance, accounting for 75 percent, or 245,000 bales, of total imports in 1949-50, and only 59 percent, or 161,000 bales, in 1950-51. While more than 5,000 bales were imported directly from the Belgian Congo in 1950-51 it is believed that most of the 27,000 bales transshipped through Belgium originated in the Congo. Egypt and Argentina were the sources for 21,000 and 11,000 bales, respectively, both sizable increases over the preceding season. Imports in 1951-52 are expected approximately to equal the 1950-51 volume, depending largely upon the trend of consumption during the season. Although Netherlands spinners would like to purchase two-thirds or more of their requirements this season in the United States, the current dollar exchange position may make this difficult.

The increase in consumption combined with decreased imports resulted in a decline in stocks at the mills from 98,000 bales on August 1, 1951, to 72,000 bales on August 1, 1951 which represents about a $3\frac{1}{2}$ months' supply at the current level of consumption. Stocks of United States cotton declined from 70 percent of the total at the beginning of the 1950-51 season to 61 percent at the beginning of the current season.

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound	
					Spot	Export and inter- mediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good.....	10-18	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	85.25	49.38	2.95
Ashmouni, FGF.....	"	"	"	79.25	45.91	2.95
Karnak, Good.....	"	"	"	116.50	67.48	2.95
Karnak, FGF.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine.....	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 820.00	21.83	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine.....	"	"	"	1/ 925.00	24.62	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine.....	10-16	82.28 lbs.	"	87.00	31.90	13.85
289F Sind, SG, Fine.....	"	"	"	89.00	32.63	13.85
289F Punjab, SG, Fine....	"	"	"	97.00	35.56	13.85
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B.....	10-18	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	8200.00	74.39	6.94
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2.....	10-16	101.4 lbs.	Sol	520.00	33.38	11.28
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	"	"	490.00	31.46	9.31
Pima, Type 1.....	"	"	"	700.00	44.94	21.77
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4.....	10-18	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	420.00	69.10	2.4% ad
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)		valorem
Sertao, Type 4.....	"	"	"	510.00	83.91	" "
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	322.00	52.98	3.0% "
Torreón		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16".....	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	285.00	32.49	6.08
Houston-Galveston-New						
Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	36.70	-----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Ceiling price.

WORLD COTTON--(Continued From Page 411)

In India the 1951-52 crop of around 2,800,000 bales will fall far short of the government's goal of 3,200,000 bales, but may be about 150,000 above the 1950-51 estimate. Failure of the monsoon in northern India is reported to be the principal reason for the downward revision in earlier estimates although the government's food production program still retains its high priority status in the national economy.

A small increase from 1,237,000 bales to 1,286,000 was reported in Pakistan where new irrigation projects are under construction. Failure of the monsoon was also felt in southern parts of the country where cotton yields are lower than previously expected.

The Egyptian crop, estimated officially at 1,697,000 equivalent bales of 500 pounds, is slightly less than the 1950-51 crop of 1,754,000 bales which was handicapped by heavy insect infestation and very high temperatures. The 1951-52 acreage estimate of 2,054,000 acres is 4,000 higher than that of a year ago. Private estimates of the current crop range from 1.9 million to 2.2 million bales and no serious damage by insects was reported earlier in the season.

There are no significant changes in production in other foreign countries from the 1950-51 level except possibly in China where the Communist press indicates large increases in acreage and production despite earlier reports of drought at planting time, widespread flood damage in July, and heavy insect infestation. The 1950-51 crop was estimated by unofficial observers at 2,330,000 bales. A tentative estimate of 2.5 million bales for the current crop has been used in this report, although there are indications that the estimate may have to be revised upward when more detailed information becomes available.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

